

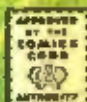
DC BATMAN



15¢

BATMAN

WITH **ROBIN** THE TEEN WONDER



NO. 232
JUNE
30050

WHEN I DECIDE
ROBIN **MUST**
DIE--

--HE
DIES!



**A TALE TO HAUNT
YOU FOREVER--**

**DAUGHTER
of the DEMON!**

NIGHT... A COLORFULLY CLAD FIGURE SLIDES SILENTLY THROUGH THE SHADOWS TOWARD A BOARDING HOUSE NEAR MIDWAY UNIVERSITY. HE SHINNIES SWIFTLY UP A DRANPIPE... THEN PAUSES AT AN OPEN WINDOW...



WHO IS THAT...?
WHO'S THERE?



BATMAN No. 233, June, 1971. Published monthly, with the assistance of Apol and Oracles by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 300 E. 4th St., Suite 200, New York, N.Y. 10002. Editorial, Executive Office, 300 E. 4th St., Suite 200, New York, N.Y. 10002. Editor, Editor. Content Information, Editorial Director, and Executive, Production Manager, Journal & News Printing, Suite 200, New York, N.Y. 10002. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1971. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The names, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictitious. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

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HOURS LATER, AT THE LAVISH GOTHAM CITY
PENTHOUSE OF MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE...

NO ~~GOOD~~! NO ONE
AT THE UNIVERSITY'S
SEEN DICK FOR THE PAST
COUPLE OF DAYS-- HE'S
VANISHED... AND THAT
HAS TO MEAN
TROUBLE!

BEGGING
YOUR PARDON,
MASTER
BRUCE--

A MESSENGER
JUST LEFT THIS
MESSAGE WITH
THE DOORMAN:

YOUNG
MASTER
DICK--?

YES, ALFRED...
AS I FEARED!
HE'S A CAPTIVE...
OR WORSE!

Dear Batman,
We have Robin!
save him if you
can!

STORY BY!
DENNY O'NEIL

THE DREAD **BATMAN**
IS NO STRANGER TO
PERIL... FOR HE HAS
FITTED HIS STRENGTH,
COURAGE, AND INTELLIGENCE
AGAINST THE DEADLIEST
OF FOES, THE MOST
INGENUOUS OF CRIMINALS...
YET NO QUEST HAS EVER
TAKEN HIM CLOSER TO
DEATH THAN HIS SEARCH
FOR THE--

DAUGHTER OF THE DEMON

ART BY!
NEAL ADAMS &
DICK GIORDANO
EDITED BY!
JULIUS SCHWARTZ



CANCEL ALL MY APPOINTMENTS, ALFRED!

I'M UN-
AVAILABLE TO EVERY-
ONE!

BRUCE WAYNE
WILL HAVE TO
VACATE IF
THE BATMAN
IS TO FIND
HIS WARD!

MAY I ASK, SR.,
WHERE YOU ARE
BOUND FIRST?



I WANT TO RUN
A FULL ANALYSIS
ON THE NOTE AND
PHOTO! FOR THAT,
I'LL NEED THE
GEAR IN THE
BATCAVE!



A NASTY TRIP TO AN ESTATE IN
THE SUBURBS...AND THEN...

SEEING MY
ANCESTRAL HOME
SO DARK...AS
CLOSED AS A
SHIRT-- GIVES ME
A NASTY CHILL!

PERHAPS DICK AND
I SHOULD NEVER
HAVE LEFT THE
OLD PLACE--



BUT TIME'S
CHANGE AND
PEOPLE MUST
CHANGE WITH
THEM!

THE ORIGINAL
CONCEALED
ENTRANCE TO THE
CAVE STILL WORKS
PERFECTLY! I
BUILT IT TO
LAST...



...AS I BUILT
EVERYTHING...
BEGINNING WITH
THE BEST PARTS
AVAILABLE AND
ENDING WITH
PLENTY OF
SWEAT!

WELCOME HOME,
BRUCE WAYNE--OR
SHALL I ADDRESS
YOU AS THE
BATMAN?

AT THE SOUND OF AN EY,
PENETRATING VOICE,
THE CAPED MAN
WHIRLS, AND--

WHO ARE
YOU? HOW'D
YOU GET
IN HERE...?

TO ANSWER
YOUR QUESTION,
I AM PRESENTLY
KNOWN AS RA'S AL
GAUL! YOU SHALL
BE SEEING
MUCH OF ME!

TO ANSWER YOUR *SECOND*
QUERY...IT WAS A SIMPLE
MATTER OF *DECEPTION* AND
RESEARCH! I REASONED
THAT *THE BATMAN* HAD TO
BE WEALTHY...

...AND THAT HE NEEDED
CERTAIN KINDS OF
EQUIPMENT! THEREFORE,
I MERELY HAD MY
ORGANIZATION
INVESTIGATE...

...AND YOU FOUND THAT
BRUCE WAYNE ALONE
BOUGHT WHAT *THE*
BATMAN HAD TO
HAVE, RIGHT? OKAY...
THAT'S A HOLE I'LL
PLUG!

I'M SURPRISED
SOMEONE DIDN'T THINK
OF IT *YEARS* AGO!
NOW, I HAVE A *THIRD*
QUESTION... THE
BIG ONE...

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

I WANT... *HELP*... YOUR *HELP*! MY
CHILD HAS BEEN *ABDUCTED*! I
RECEIVED THIS PHOTOGRAPH
BY *MESSENGER*!

THAT'S
TALIA! SHE'S
YOUR
DAUGHTER!

Dear RA'S AL GAUL
we have your
daughter, save her
if you can.

* *THE BATMAN* SAVED *TALIA*'S LIFE IN
"INTO THE PEN OF THE DEATH-DEALERS"
(DETECTIVE COMICS #411 (MAY 1971)) AND
SHE RETURNED THE COMPLIMENT BY SLAYING
THE MURDEROUS DR. *DARREN*... EDITOR.

APPARENTLY THE GIRL WAS TAKEN BY THE SAME PERSON WHO HAS MY WARD! WE HAVE A MUTUAL PROBLEM--

TALIA SPEKE ANYWAY OF YOUR ABILITIES AS A DETECTIVE! I TRUST HER JUDGMENT WITHOUT RESERVATION--

IF ANYONE CAN SEEK HER OUT... IT IS THE BATMAN!

LET'S HOPE YOU'RE *RIGHT* CORRECT! FOR OPENERS, I'LL EXAMINE THE PICTURES UNDER A MICROSCOPIC SPECTROGRAPH!

THERE MAY BE TRACES OF *POIS* THAT CAN GIVE US A CLUE!

FOR THE BETTER PART OF AN HOUR THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE BENDS TO HIS TASK! THEN--

YES...UNMISTAKABLE BITS OF A CERTAIN *HERB*... ONE USED IN CEREMONIES OF A FAR EASTERN CLUT OF *KILLERS*!

THEY'RE CALLED THE *BROTHERHOOD OF THE PISHAN*! AND I RECALL THAT THEY'RE CURRENTLY LOCATED IN *CALCUTTA*!

WE SHALL PROCEED TO *INDIA* IMMEDIATELY!

YOU *SMILE*, BATMAN! YOU HAVE MADE A *DISCOVERY*?

I THINK SO...

I HAVE AN AIRCRAFT WAITING NEARBY--

INFIDEL! MY LORD *AL GAUL* LEAVES THE CHAMBER FIRST!

WELL, OKAY, FRIEND! YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT!

PRAY FORGIVE MY GUARD *DUU*! HE IS TRAINED TO MY COMPLETE SERVICE... AND A TRIFLE *OVERZEALOUS*!

HE'S THAT, ALL RIGHT... AND STRONG, TOO!

SOON, THE COPPLY
MIXED TRIO IS
WINGING OVER
AN OCEAN...

AND INSIDE THE LUXURIOUS JET...

YOUR ~~WIFE~~ AND MY DAUGHTER
ARE IN MORTAL DANGER!
INDEED, ~~BATMAN~~ THEY MAY
ALREADY BE DEAD! YET
YOU SHOW NO SIGNS
OF AGITATION...

NOR DO YOU EXHIBIT
ANY ~~CURIOUSITY~~
CONCERNING MY
HUMBLE ~~SELF~~.
HAVE YOU NO
FEELINGS?

PLENTY OF THEM! BUT
IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD FOR
ME TO ALLOW MY EMOTIONS
TO GAIN CONTROL...

...NOT WHILE THERE'S A ~~JOB~~ AHEAD!
FOR YEARS, I'VE TRAINED MYSELF TO
CONCENTRATE ON THE THING AT HAND...

LATER, I'LL
CRY... IF I
MUST!

CRY? YES,
THERE
HAVE BEEN
TEARS IN
MY LIFE...

"BEGINNING WITH THAT SUMMER EVENING 60
LONG AGO, MY PARENTS AND THE CHILD THAT
WAS MYSELF WERE STROLLING HOME FROM A
MOVIE, HAPPY, CONTENT—WHEN SUDDENLY—"

I'LL
TAKE THAT
NECKLACE
YOU'RE WEARING,
LADY!

LEAVE HER
ALONE...
AAGH!

SHUT UP, LADY!
I SAID... **SHUT UP!**

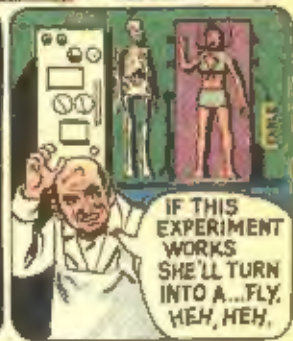
HELP!
POLICE...
HELP!

PLEASE,
DON'T--!

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGES

THE WEIRD WORLD OF AURORA

PUT TOGETHER YOUR OWN SCARY SCENES WITH AURORA'S FANTASTIC MONSTERSCENES CUSTOM BUILDER KITS.



WILL THE EXPERIMENT SUCCEED? IT'S UP TO YOU WHEN YOU BUILD YOUR MONSTERSCENES CUSTOM BUILDER KITS FROM AURORA



SNAP THEM TOGETHER. NO GLUE NEEDED. CREATE YOUR OWN SCARY SCENES. GET VAMPIRELLA, FRANKENSTEIN, DR. DEADLY, GIRL VICTIM, PLUS ALL LAB EQUIPMENT. 8 KITS IN ALL. GET MONSTERSCENES CUSTOM BUILDER KITS FROM

AURORA

"The World's Largest Manufacturer of Hobby Products"

AURORA PRODUCTS CORP., 44 CHERRY VALLEY ROAD, WEST HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. 11552

"IN A SINGLE, BEARING MOMENT, MY CHILDHOOD WAS GONE, BLASTED BY A CHEAP THUG'S BULLETS, AND I WAS LEFT ALONE IN A WORLD GROWN COLD..."



"I KNEW I WOULD NEVER AGAIN KNOW PEACE! STANDING OVER THE BODIES OF MY MOTHER AND FATHER, I MADE A SILENT VOW..."

"I WOULD AVENGE THEIR MURDERS—I WOULD DEDICATE MY LIFE TO A RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME..."



"AND SO I DID! HAD I REALIZED THE DIFFICULTY OF THE TASK I'D SET MYSELF, I MIGHT HAVE WAVED, THERE WERE BRUTALLY LONG HOURS IN THE LABORATORY..."



"AND EQUALLY LONG, EQUALLY BRUTAL HOURS IN THE GYM... TRAINING, DEVELOPING EVERY CONCEIVABLE SORT OF SKILL..."



"I WAS NOT YET OLD ENOUGH TO VOTE... A TOTALLY DEVOTED, ALMOST FANATICAL YOUNG MAN..."



"CONSUMED WITH A NEED, BUT UNABLE TO FOCUS IT, THEN, ONE NIGHT A BAT CHANCED IN MY WINDOW—AND MY FUTURE WAS CLEAR."

"IT'S AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME A BAT!"

"I FELT CRIMINALS TO BE A COWARDLY, SUPERSTITIOUS LOT..."



"AND I REASONED THAT MY DISGUISE WOULD STIR TERROR IN THEIR HEARTS..."

"SOON, I BECAME FEARED AND HATED... EXACTLY AS I'D HOPED! THEN AT A PERFORMANCE OF THE CIRCUS, I SAW MY OWN TRAGEDY HORRIBLY REENACTED AS A PAIR OF AERIALISTS PLUNGED TO THEIR DEATHS..."



"...LEAVING A SMALL, FRIGHTENED BOY TO MOURN. I CALLED WITH THE REALIZATION THAT MINE WAS NOT AN ISOLATED AGONY, NOR EVEN UNIQUE!"



"I LOOKED AT THE WEeping LAD... AND SAW MYSELF. I PUT A HAND ON HIS SHOULDER, AND IN THAT SECOND, AN UNDERSTANDING WAS FORGED BETWEEN US... AND A COMMON PURPOSE."





"THE DESIRE TO
SEE JUSTICE METED
OUT TO THOSE WHO
DO NOT HOLD LIFE
SACRED MIGHT
HAVE DIMMED FOR
ANOTHER MAN,
BUT FOR THE BATMAN
THERE IS THIS
ALMOST DAILY
REMINDER OF
MAN'S INHUMANITY.
ONLY THIS TIME
IT HAS STRUCK
THAT MUCH
CLOSER TO MY
HEART!"

SOON... CALCUTTA! CITY OF A
THOUSAND MISERIES, A MILLION
TEARS! BEHIND EVERY DOOR
LURKS A HORROR... BEHIND
EVERY SMILE, A KNIFE...

ALMS!
ALMS FOR
THE LOVE
OF ALLAH!



ALMS,
GOOD
BROTHERS?

NAY, OLD PRIEST
WE COME TO
TAKE, NOT
GIVE!

EMPTY YOUR
BEGGING CUP...
OR SUFFER OUR
ANGER!

SUCH THREATS
BODE YOU ILL!

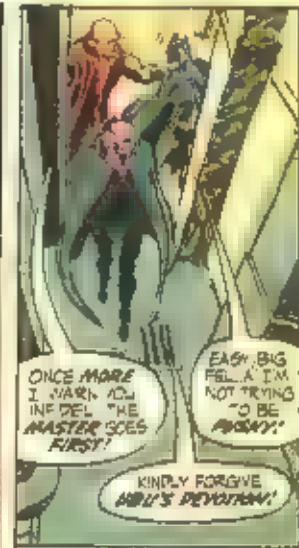
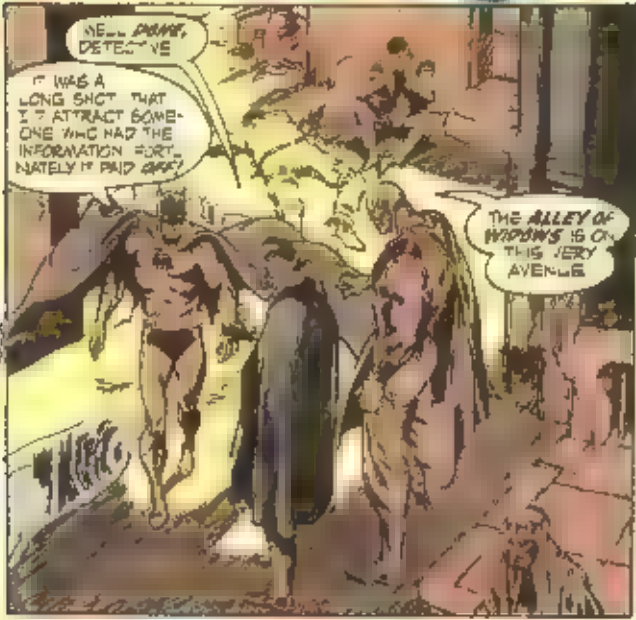
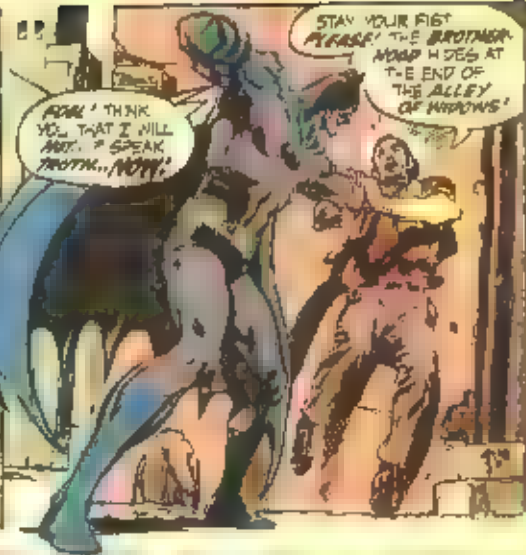


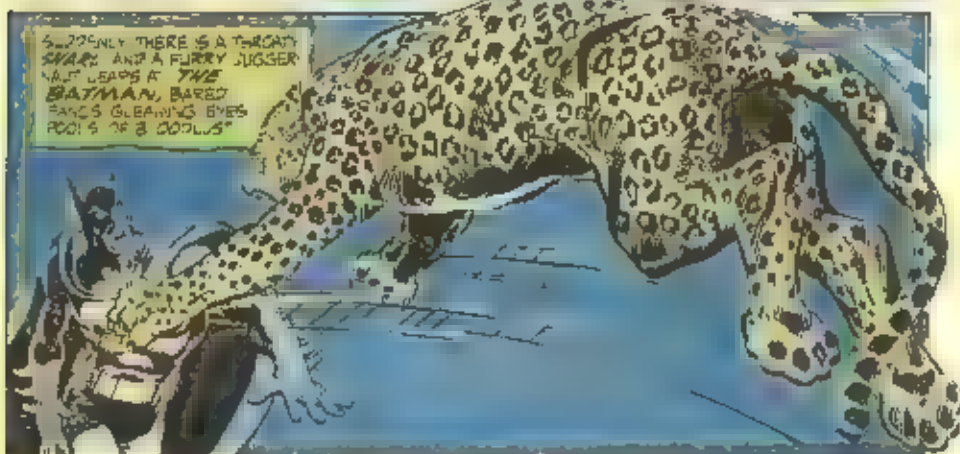
SURRENDER!
FOR MY ANGER
DWARFS
YOURS!

AIEEE!
BENEATH THE
HOLY ROBES, A
DEVIL FROM
HELL!—A
BAT-MAN!

STUPID
WAVES OF
STICKS! YOUR
WEAPON MEANS
NOTHING
TO ME!

IT ONLY
INCREASES
MY RAGE!





ALMOST WITHOUT THINKING **THE BATMAN** SMASHES HIS ELBOW DEEP INTO THE MOUTH OF THE ENRAGED LEOPARD LOCKING ITS JAWS OPEN.



AS HE FALLS **BATMAN** SIDESTEPS, AVOIDING THE RAGING FINGERS WHICH SEARCH THE AIR FALLING TO DISEMPOWERED.

THEN, WITH SPLIT-SECOND TIMING, **THE BATMAN** DRIVES HIMSELF IN AND AROUND THE FELINE FURY.



AND INSIDE THE RANGE OF THE RAGING CLAWS, **THE BATMAN** BEGINS TO FORCE HIS ELBOW FORWARD UNTIL...



PANTING THE CAPED WARRIOR STANDS AS ALL
AL GHAUL MURMURS CONGRATULATIONS

EXCELLENT,
DETECTIVE
IS THERE NO
LIMIT TO
YOUR PROWESS?

THAT
LEOPARD
WAS
TRAINED!

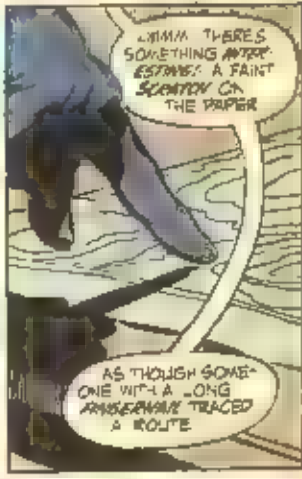


SOMEONE TAUGHT
IT TO ACT AS A SPY!
THE QUESTION IS
WHICH IS WORTH
CONSIDERING?

NOTHING IN
THE PLACE
EXCEPT
THAT
DESK

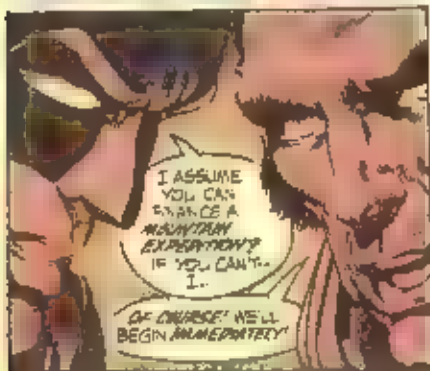


AND NOTHING
IN THE DESK
EXCEPT THIS
MAP! A
CHART OF
THE
IMMEDIATE
MOUNTAINS!



WHY! THERE'S
SOMETHING INTER-
ESTING! A FAINT
SCOTCH ON
THE PAPER

AS THOUGH SOME-
ONE WITH A LONG
ARMERMAN TRACED
A ROUTE



I ASSUME
YOU CAN
FINANCE A
MOUNTAIN
EXPEDITION?
IF YOU CAN'T--
I--

OF COURSE! WE'LL
BEGIN IMMEDIATELY!



OH, YES!
I FORGET!--
AFTER YOU!

MOUNT MANDA DEVI, ONE OF THE MIGHTY HIMALAYAS
RISING FROM THE WASTELANDS BETWEEN INDIA & TIBET
25,645 FEET INTO THIN BRUTALLY COLD AIR TREACHEROUS
SAVAGE TERRAIN THAT ALLOWS ANY WHO DARES ONLY
ONE MISTAKE

TO THIS NIGHTMARE OF BUSTERING WIND AND BLINDING
SNOW TREK **THE BATMAN** AND HIS TWO STRANGE
COMPANIONS...

IT HASN'T SNOWED
FOR SEVERAL DAYS THE
TRAIL IS ST... CLEAR!

YES THE ABDUCTORS
OBVIOUSLY BROUGHT
YOUR WARD AND MY
DAUGHTER UP THIS
WAY



YOU TOO
TIRED TO
GO ON?
WE CAN
MAKE
CAMP
HERE

NO,
DETECTIVE!
ALTHOUGH
I HAVE NOT
ALL YOUR
SKILLS, I
AM YOUR
EQUAL IN
STRENGTH!

BUT
GIVE ME
A MOMENT
TO GAZE!



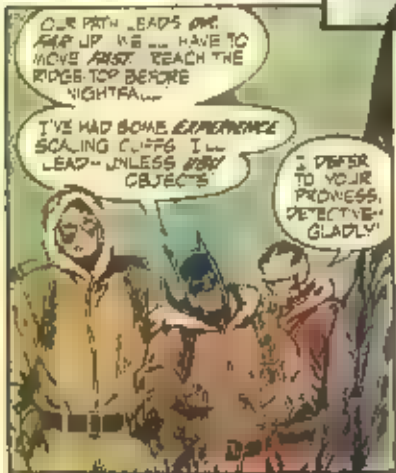
IT IS A BEAUTY TO WHICH
MY SOUL RESPONDS SO
STARK SO PURE AS
UNTAINED AS MY
DESERT HOME

I AM CURSED
WITH A LOVE FOR
EMPTINESS...
DESOLATION



TELL ME
YOUR LIFE -
STORY LATER...
WHEN THE KIDS
ARE SAFE!

THESE FOOT-
AND-HAND-HOLDS
HAVE BEEN
HACKED FROM
THE ICE
RECENTLY!



OUR PATH LEADS ON.
HURRY UP WE MUST HAVE TO
MOVE FIRST REACH THE
RIDGE-TOO BEFORE
NIGHTFALL

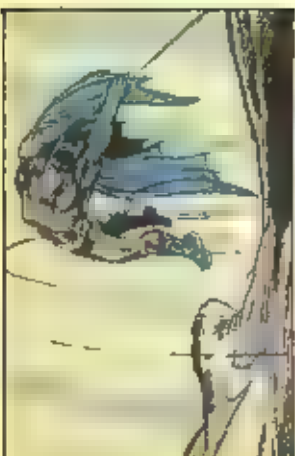
I'VE HAD SOME EXPERIENCE
SCALING CLIFFS I'LL
LEAD - UNLESS YOU
OBJECT

I DEFER
TO YOUR
PRONESS,
DETECTIVE -
GLADLY!

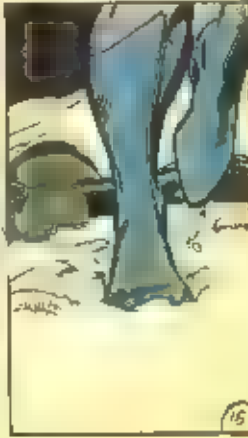


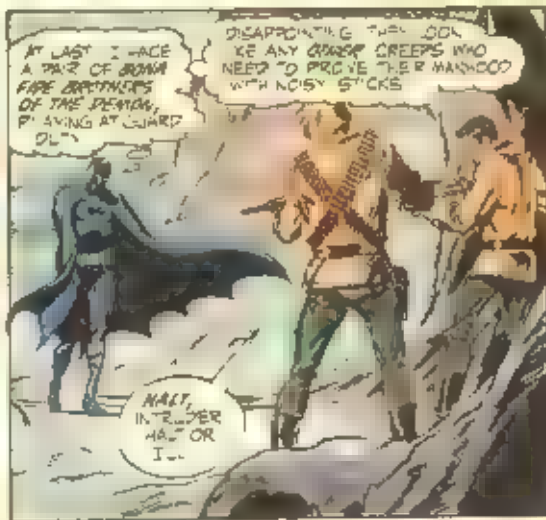
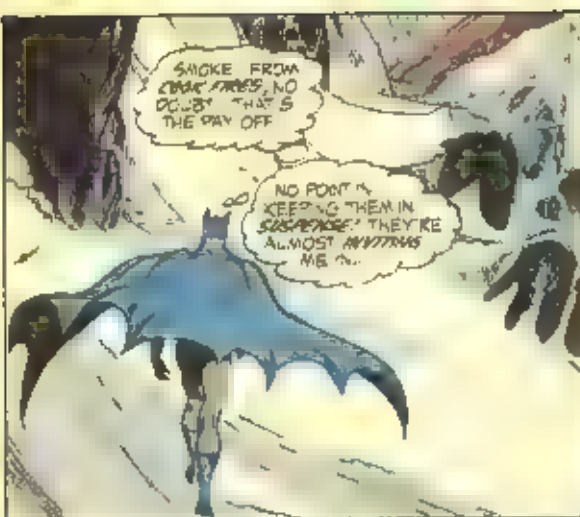
NOT BY DANGEROUS
NOT THEY ASCEND
ONLY A THIN ROPE
BETWEEN THEM
AND A QUICK
PLUNGE TO DEATH!
FINGERS AND FACES
GROW NUMB, AND
THE BREATH
RATTLES WARILY
IN THEIR THROATS -





ACROSS THE CHASM HE FLINGS HIMSELF--A FINAL DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO REACH THE STEEP SLOPE FIFTEEN FEET AWAY. A MURDERER IN FRONT AND YAWNING DOOM BELOW...





BOLDLY THE BATMAN STRIDES INTO A CHAMBER HEAVY FROM ROCK AND

BATMAN:
GOOD TO SEE
MY FRIEND

SAME HERE,
ALLEN!

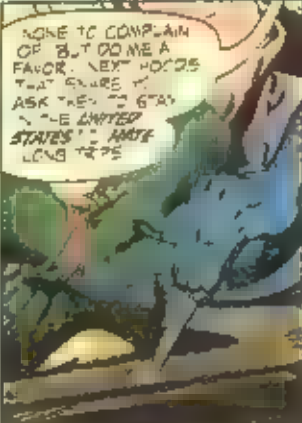
STOP!
YOU
CAN'T...



SURE I CAN
HITCA!

HOW HAVE THEY
BEEN TREATING
YOU?

IT'S BAD
CHOICE LOOSY.
NICE ATMOSPHERE.
THOUGH HAVE
ANY PROBLEMS
GETTING
HERE?



NONE TO COMPLAIN
OF BUT DO ME A
FAVOR. NEXT MORNING
I'LL BE HERE TO
ASK THEM TO STAY
IN THE UNITED
STATES. I'VE HAD
LONG TALKS



ON YOUR KNEES,
INTRUDER. THE
SUPREME BROTHER
ENTERS

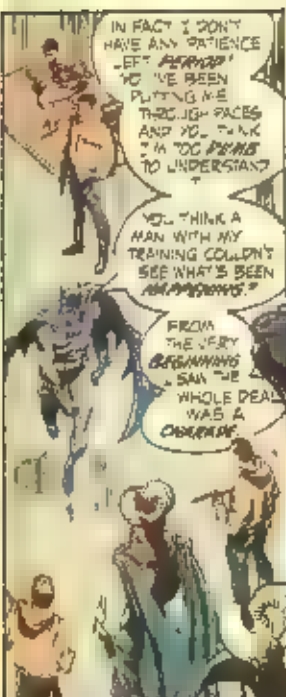
I'LL GIVE THE
KNEELING A MISS,
IF YOU DON'T
WIND UP EVEN
IF YOU
DO!

IN THE LAST THREE
DAYS, I'VE MIXED
WITH CUT-THROATS
AND A KILLER-
BOYARD



I'VE BEEN
MY KNUCKLES ON
VARIOUS THINGS,
I'VE COMBED
AND NO MIND AND
I'VE DROPPED
BULLETS

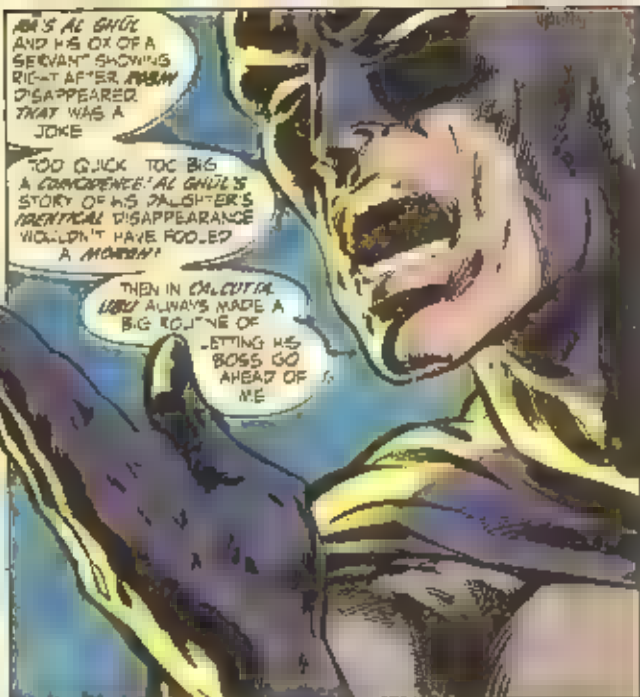
SO I DON'T
HAVE ANY
ATTENTION LEFT
FOR
PONY
STALS.



IN FACT I DON'T
HAVE ANY PATIENCE
LEFT PERHAP!
YO'VE BEEN
PUTTING ME
THROUGH PAGES
AND YO' THINK
I'M TOO STUPID
TO UNDERSTAND
T

YOU THINK A
MAN WITH MY
TRAINING COULDN'T
SEE WHAT'S BEEN
HAPPENING?

FROM
THE VERY
BEGINNING
SAW THE
WHOLE DEAL
WAS A
CHORE

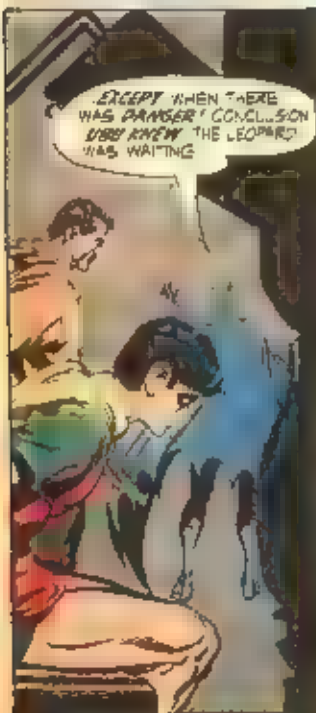


HA'S AL GHUL
AND HIS OX OF A
SERVANT SHOWING
RIGHT AFTER PASH
DISAPPEARED
THAT WAS A
JOKE

TOO QUICK TOO BIG
A CONSEQUENCE! AL GHUL'S
STORY OF HIS DAUGHTER'S
IDENTICAL DISAPPEARANCE
WOULDN'T HAVE FOOLED
A MORTAL!

THEN IN CALCUTTA
LEBU ALWAYS MADE A
BIG ROUTINE OF

LETTING HIS
BOSS GO
AHEAD OF
ME



EXCEPT WHEN THERE
WAS DANGER! CONCLUSION
LEBU KNEW THE LEOPARD
WAS WAITING



THE MAP WAS THE CLINCHER!
I "DID A LITTLE WHITE" E.
BECAUSE THERE WAS NO
FINGERPRINT SCRATCH ON
THE CHART -

"YES" LEBU AND AL GHUL TOOK
ME TO THIS MOUNTAIN
THIS OF THE THIRTEEN
ANNAHAYS!



IM TIRED
OF TALKING.
YO' READY,
ROBIN?

CHECK
BATMAN!
SHALL WE
BEGIN?



WITNESS TO ~~ARMY~~ HELD IN RIGID
CHECK UNTIL ~~ARMY~~ EXPLODES!



THESE ARE NO BRUTAL BEINGS. THERE
IS A PART OF THEIR HEARTS THAT
RESENTS VIOLENCE.



BUT THEY ARE A PRODUCT OF THEIR ERA.
EVEN AS ARE YOU. THE HORRORS OF THREE
WARS AND DEEP PERSONAL TRAGEDY HAVE
SHAPED THEM.

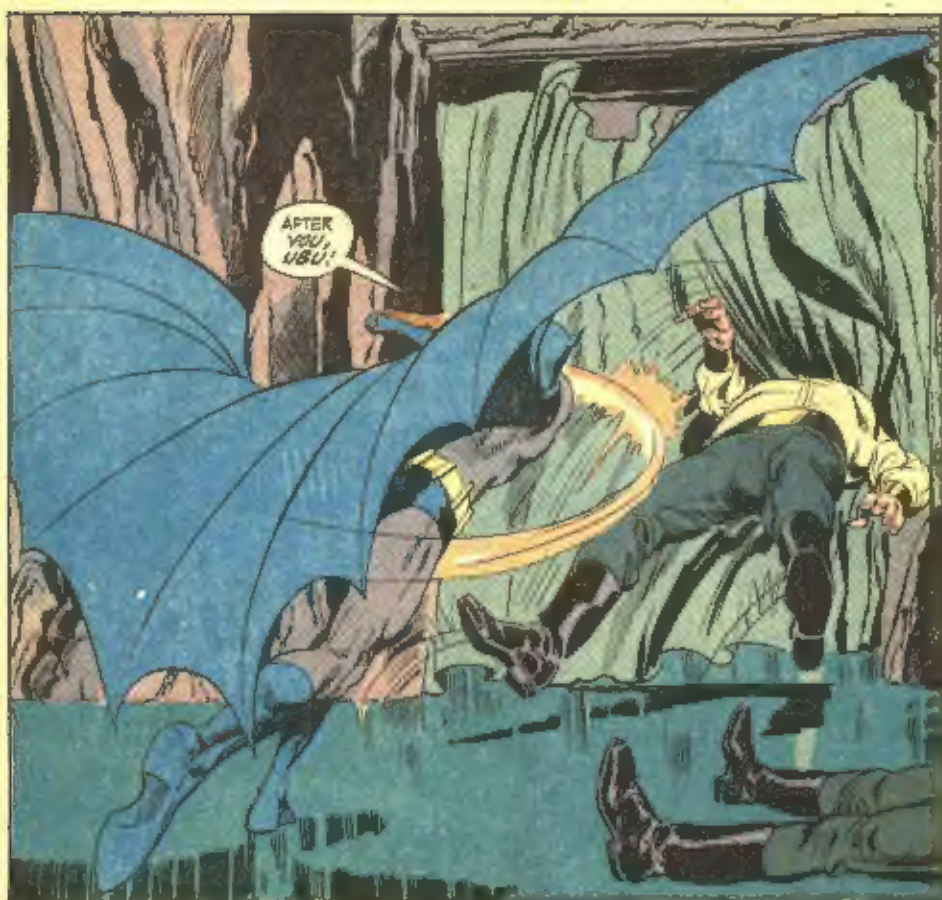
SO VIOLENCE LIVES WITHIN THEM. AND GIVEN
THE OCCASION, IT CAN BECOME AN ICY
REMORSE-LESS VENGEANCE.



YOUR COHORTS
ARE FINISHED. YOUR
WHOLE BLOODY
CREW IS DONE FOR!

NO SENSE IN YOUR
HIDING BEHIND THAT MASK
ANY LONGER. IT'S A POOR
DISGUISE FOR ONE AS BIG
AND UGLY AS YOU *SEN!*





AFTER
YOU,
USU!



LOOK WHO'S
JOINED THE MERRI-
MENT. *Robin!* THE
HONORABLE RA'S AL
GNDL AND HIS
GIRL-CHILD!

AAAAH... MY DEAR,
DEAR DETECTIVE!
I SHOULD HAVE
REALIZED I
COULD NOT ESCAPE
YOUR SCRUTINY!



DON'T BOTHER WITH
AN ELABORATE
EXPLANATION! I
KNOW YOU FAKED
BEING SHOT... I
FIGURED OUT
EVERYTHING...

...EXCEPT WHY!
YOU'VE STAGED A
COMPLICATED QUEST...
AND THE DANGERS
ALONG THE WAY
WERE REAL!



YOU WOULD HAVE
LET ME BE **KILLED**
IF I HADN'T SAVED
MYSELF! YOU WENT
TO A LOT OF
TROUBLE FOR
A **GAME**!

NO GAME,
DETECTIVE! YOUR
ADMIRABLE MIND
HAS REASONED
ALL SAVE THE
GUYVUS...



...THAT MY
DARLING TALIA
LOVES YOU!

MY
ORGANIZATION
IS **WASTED**...!
I CONSIDER
RETIRING
FROM MY
ACTIVITIES...

I HAD TO
SATISFY
MYSELF
THAT YOU
ARE A
WORTHY
SUCCESSOR
TO ME!...
A WORTHY
SON-IN-
LAW!



WHO KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT **RA'S AL GHUL** AND HIS LOVELY
TALIA ARE PLANNING NEXT?--CERTAINLY NOT THE **BATMAN**!
MORE TO COME SOON!

(12)

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT MAY 11TH

**FOR SHEER
SUSPENSE!**

ON SALE April 22nd



**MORE
FOR YOUR
MONEY...**



**...AND
BETTER!**

ON SALE APRIL 14th